

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Allen C. Yun on 05/26/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the title, please delete the old title:

"Methods and agents for immune modulation and methods for identifying immune modulators",

And insert the new title:

-- Method for treating an immune disorder by decreasing NIK-SIVA complex formation --.

In the claims, in claim 21, line 8, after "(SIVA1)", please insert:

-- or --.

In the claims, in claim 21, line 10, after "(SIVA2)", please delete: "(iii) a small interfering RNA molecule, or (iv) a ribozyme.", and insert:

-- . --.

Please cancel claims 25-58 and 60.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The amendments to the claims removed the reasons for rejection of the claims 21-25 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph and of the claims 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)/103(a). The decision to allow the claims to the second epitope for the antibody was taken because the amino acid sequence between 123-175 of SEQ ID NO: 3 is identical to the epitope sequence between 58-110 of the SEQ ID NO: 4.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ELLY-GERALD STOICA whose telephone number is (571)272-9941. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-18:30 M-THz and 9:00-18:30 alternate F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey J. Stucker can be reached on (571) 272-0911. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Elly-Gerald Stoica/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1647